UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - ALTURAS FIELD OFFICE

Decision Record for a Categorically Excluded Action

A. Background

BLM Office: Alturas Field Office LLCANO2000

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: DOI-BLM-CA-N020-2010-05-CX

Proposed Action Title/Type: Mendiboure Fire - Pasture Fence Reconstruction

<u>Location of Proposed Action:</u> Mendiboure Fire Pasture Fence: MDB&M, T36N, R14E, Sections 21, 22, 23, <u>Etchecopar Pasture - West fence:</u> MDB&M, T36N, R14E, Section 10

<u>Description of Proposed Action:</u>

In August 2009 the Mendiboure Fire burned approximately 1,400 acres within the McDonald Mountain Allotment across both Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and private lands belonging to Mendiboure Ranch. The fire burned 715 acres of BLM in the Maiden Field and Etchecopar Field combined and 688 acres of private in the Poulsen Field. Approximately 4.5 miles of three separate sections of pasture fences within the McDonald Mountain Allotment was damaged due to extreme fire behavior and burning conditions. These fences are needed to exclude livestock from the burned areas to provide for natural recovery/establishment of native vegetation. The fences will allow livestock to continue to use the remaining unburned portion of the allotment. Both fences will have the secondary benefit of continuing the grazing rotation in the McDonald Mountain Allotment. Fences will be constructed in accordance with BLM Manual H-1741-1-Fence.

B. Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Policies and Land Use Plans

This proposed action is subject to the following use plan(s): Alturas Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Record of Decision (ROD), approved on April 17, 2008.

The proposed action has been determined to be in conformance with this plan as required by regulation (43 CFR 1610.5-3(a)).

C. Administrative Remedies

Administrative remedies may be available to those who believe they will be adversely affected by this decision. Appeals may be made to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Interior, Board of Land Appeals (Board) in strict compliance with the regulations in 43 CFR Part 4. Notices of appeal must be filed in this office within 30 days after publication of this decision. If a notice of appeal does not include a statement of reasons, such statement must be filed with this office and the Board within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed. The notice of appeal and any statement of reasons, written arguments, or briefs must also be served upon the Regional Solicitor, Pacific Southwest Region, U.S. Department of Interior, 2800 Cottage Way, E-1712, Sacramento, CA 95825.

D. **Decision**:

After review of the above possible exemptions it is my finding that the proposed action as described above qualifies as a categorical exclusion and further environmental analysis is not required. It is my decision to implement the proposed action as described.

| Approved By: | /s/ Timothy J. Burke | 02/17/2010 |
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| | Timothy J. Burke | Date |
| | Alturas Field Manager | |